



AMESBURY

CITY HALL
62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

Finance Committee Minutes Tuesday, July 26, 2016, 7 p.m.

Councilor McClure called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll call was taken.

Members present were: Councilor Sickorez, Councilor Bartley, Councilor Einson, Councilor Sherwood, Councilor Lavoie, Councilor McMilleon, Councilor Stanganelli, Councilor McClure; and Councilor Scorzoni arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Councilor McMilleon moved to accept the minutes from the regular Finance Committee Meeting of June 28, 2016; and the Budget Hearing Meeting minutes of May 17 and 26, 2016, as submitted. Councilor Sickorez seconded. It was voted unanimous (8 present).

Brett Manoloff, 47 Pleasant Valley Rd., thanked the Committee for considering the need to fund the maintenance of the tennis courts.

2016-061 – An Order to Authorize a Transfer of Funds from Salary Reserve to Cover FY17 AFSCME Salaries – Mayor Sponsor

James Lynch, Chief Financial Officer, presented. This will fund the AFSCME members at the DPW to receive a 1% increase.

There is \$115,000 in the reserve fund.

Councilor Stanganelli moved to send **2016-061**, an order authorizing a transfer of funds in the amount of \$8,600, to the City Council as presented. Councilor Bartley seconded. It was voted unanimous (8 present).

2016-066 – An Order to Leverage Economic Access for Development throughout the City – Mayor Sponsor

William Scott, Director of Economic Development, presented. The PowerPoint presentation is on file at the City Clerk's Office.

There is no action to take on this order at this time. There is a letter from the Mayor asking this ordinance to be rescinded.

Councilor McMilleon moved to recommend to the City Council that **2016-066** be rescinded based on a letter received by the Mayor; and will entertain a motion for a resolution at the City Council meeting in September. Councilor Sherwood seconded. It was voted unanimous (9 present).

Evan Kenney, Chief of Staff, spoke to the Committee about capital funding and the need for tennis court repairs in the amount of \$20,000. The money is appropriated.

2016-067 – An Ordinance to amend Amesbury City Council Bill #2000-184 to increase the exemption on Personal Property Taxes from \$2,000 to \$10,000 as allowed under MGL Ch. 59, Section 5, Paragraph 54. – Councilor Stanganelli sponsor

Councilor Stanganelli presented. He said that Mass. General Law allows for up to 10k and this would be a business friendly change for the City.

Councilor Bartley said the City stands to lose +16k of this passes.

Councilor Lavoie and Councilor McMilleon stated that this would shift the tax burden.

Councilor Sherwood requested Councilor Stanganelli to provide the Council with what the number accounts are and the impact would be at a variety of levels.

Councilor Stanganelli disclosed that he was in touch with Ethics about this matter.

Councilor Einson doesn't see the justification for that big of a shift (from 2k to 10k).

Councilor Lavoie moved to send **2016-067** to the City Council with a recommendation that it not pass. Councilor McMilleon seconded. It was voted: 6 – YES; 2 – NO (Scorzoni, Stanganelli); 1 – Abstained (Sherwood).

Councilor McMilleon motioned to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Councilor Sickorez seconded. It was voted unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawne Warren
Administrative Assistant
Office of the City Clerk